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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 602
By Fraley

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend William "Clyde" Stephens, Jr. for laudable service to the people of Tennessee as an Emergency Medical Technician and to congratulate him upon winning the 2001 state and national Emergency Medical Technician Gold Medal Award.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves in the performance of their chosen field of endeavor and as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, One such noteworthy person is William "Clyde" Stephens, Jr., who, since 1972, has worked for the Marion County Ambulance Service; during that period he has transported more than 67,000 injured patients to medical facilities throughout the Sequatchie Valley without a loss of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stephens is a veteran of the Korean War, having served from 1952-54 as assistant supply sergeant and crew chief on a quad 50 caliber machine gun; he is a lifetime

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member of the Jasper Memorial Post (VFW) 6362, having previously served as Post Commander and now serving as Quartermaster and Veterans Service Officer; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Stephens also belongs to American Legion Post 62, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 106, and is serving as the Marion County Service Officer for the Tennessee Department of Veteran Affairs; he is a member of the Tennessee State Guard, serving as an administrative officer with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the Medical Battalion; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his work with Marion County Ambulance Service, Clyde Stephens still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to selfless service as a medic for the Marion County High School football program, and teaching CPR classes in schools, senior citizen centers, Boy Scout groups and other venues; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stephens has won numerous awards, including Outstanding Young Fireman of 1971, Outstanding Emergency Medical Technician of 1993 and two lifesaving awards; he was nominated for the 2001 Emergency Service Technician Gold Medal Award by Linda Cagle, Director of the Marion County Ambulance Service, joining a pool of nominees from 138 VFW posts across the state; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Stephens won the Tennessee award for his "dedication to his official responsibilities and continuous growth in responsibility and experience." He went on to win the national Emergency Service Technician Gold Medal Award, the first person in the State of Tennessee to win this award, and traveled to Arlington, Virginia to receive the national honor; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Stephens epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Clyde Stephens is most grateful for the love and companionship he shares with his wife of 45 years, Ann; they are the proud parents of Raymond, Zella Ann and David; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud William "Clyde" Stephens, Jr. for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and its citizens and congratulate him upon winning the 2001 state and national Emergency Medical Technician Gold Medal Awards; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend William "Clyde" Stephens, Jr. for his meritorious service to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for much happiness and every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.